

b.) REMARKS

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner required that Applicants elect for prosecution one of the inventions of:

Group I (Claims 1-18), drawn to compounds of formula 1 wherein R² is substituted or unsubstituted phenyl;

Group II (Claims 1-18), drawn to compounds of formula 1 wherein R² is substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic. The Examiner states election of group 2 would necessitate further restriction based on the heterocyclic R² variant;

Group 3 (Claims 1-18), drawn to compounds of formula 1 not encompassed by compounds of Groups 2 and 3. Election of this group would necessitate further restriction as well; or

Group III (Claim 27), drawn to a pharmaceutical method of use of compounds.

In response, Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the invention of Group I, namely Claims 1-18, without traverse. By the above amendment, however, claims 1-11 should be rejoined to Group III.

Also, applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an selection of species and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected species. In response, Applicants hereby select Compound 218 (described on page 64 in the present specification) and identify claims 12 and 14-18 as the claims encompassing the selected compound.

Entry hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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